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GIFT OF THE
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF EDUCATION





CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Education Society

OF THE

Warren Baptist Association;

AND

Circular Letter

TO THE

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION TO MINISTERS
OF THE GOSPEL.

BOSTON .

printed by James Loring, no. 2, cornhilt.

1817.

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GIFT OF THE
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

CONSTITUTION

ADOPTED

AT THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSOCIATION,

SEPTEMBER, 1816.

I. THIS Society shall be called THE BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY OF THE WARREN ASSOCIATION.

II. This Society shall be composed of all such persons as pay into its funds at least one dollar annually, who shall have a right to assemble with the Trustees, hereinafter named, and vote in the

election of the Executive Committee.

III. The object of this Society shall be, to afford the means of useful information, to all such of our brethren of the Bantist denomination, whether intended for, or actually engaged in, the work of the gospel ministry, as shall be deemed by the Executive Committee hereinafter named, suitable persons to receive the aid of this Society.

IV. A Board of Trustees, for this Society, shall be raised in the following manner, viz.: For the present year, one Messenger now present from each of the Churches, shall be chosen by the Association, who shall immediately execute the duty hereafter assigned them; and in future, each Church comprised in the Warren Baptist Association, which shall annually forward a contribution to aid the fund, shall be authorized to appoint one Trustee.

V. The Trustees shall meet annually on the Tuesday after the first Wednesday, in September, at eight o'cleck, A.M. at the place of the meeting of the Warren Association, and shall elect by ballot a Treasurer, Secretary, and seven persons, who shall be either members of their own body, or other brethran of the said Associa-

tion, and shall be styled, The Executive Committee. One third of the whole number of Trustees shall be necessary to form a quorum.

VI. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Chairman; take charge of the pecuniary concerns of the Society; receive applications of candidates, and judge of their qualifications; determine on the instructers to be employed; and the time the candidates shall devote to study; and generally attend to the concerns of the Institution. It is required that the Committee annually expend the amount received, if a sufficient number of candidates make application, and that they make a report annually to the Association, and oftener to the Trustees, if required.

VII. The Executive Committee shall appoint agents in such places as they shall judge proper, to aid in obtaining subscriptions and contributions, and otherwise increasing the funds of the Society,

VIII. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Committee, which shall be open to the inspection of the Trustees and of the Society.

IX. The Treasurer shall keep a fair account of all receipts and expenditures, and give bonds to the Chairman of the Committee, for the faithful discharge of his office.

X. Should similar Institutions be formed in neighbouring Associations, the Executive Committee shall be authorized to appoint a delegate to confer with them, and to unite in providing more extensive means for obtaining literary and theological knowledge.

XI. Any alterations may be made in this Constitution by a majority of the Trustees, at any annual meeting, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Agreeably to the Constitution, the Trustees, immediately after the business of the Association was concluded, elected the following persons to fill the offices for the present year, viz.

DAVID BENEDICT, Secretary.
STEPHEN S. NELSON, Treasurer.
WILLIAM GAMMELL,
JONATHAN GOING,
JAMES M. WINCHELL,
DAVID CURTIS,
BARNABAS BATES,
ABIEL FISHER, jc.
SAMUEL GLOVER,

Executive Committee. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, on the eleventh of September, 1816,

Voted,—That brother Winchell prepare a Circular, accompanied by the Constitution, to be distributed among the Churches composing the Warren Association, for the purpose of obtaining subscribers to the Education Society.

Circular.

To the MINISTERS and CHURCHES composing the WARREN ASSOCIATION.

BELOVED BRETHREN,

THE Executive Committee of the Education Society, formed at your last anniversary, beg leave to call your attention to the object contemplated in the preceding Constitution.

We are persuaded that arguments need not be multiplied to show the advantages of knowledge to a minister of the gospel. You will all readily acknowledge its utility when devoted to the interests of religion and humanity; and although it has been often employed for the basest of purposes, by men who have been destitute of the grace of God in their hearts, yet that is no reason why we should renounce it altogether. We are not accustomed to undervalue our religion because it has been abused by worldly and ambitious men for the acquisition of wealth and power; neither should we consider learning to be the less useful or necessary in a minister the gospel because unsanctified men have perverted it to the support of pride, errour and personal aggrandizement.

To secure your approbation and support to this Institution, nothing more is necessary than to state, that there is in the Association at this present time, a number of young men of promising gifts, and undoubted piety, whose hearts are devoted to the ministry, but who labour under great embarrassments, arising from the want of necessary information and of the means of procuring it. We know that it is the province of God by his Spirit to call and qualify men for the discharge of this important office; but we know also, that a knowledge of letters, so necessary to render a man's labours acceptable and profitable to every class of society, is acquired, not by any miraculous and supernatural endowment; but by reading, by reflection, and by a diligent, prayerful and persevering application to the

Names. RESIDENCE.

Annual Dona-Subscrip- Tion.



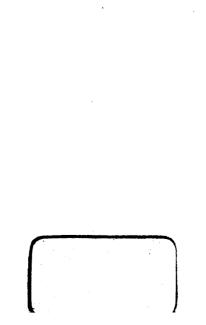
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